

10 / 808958

Rule
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CLAIMS:

- 1 ~~12~~ (Previously Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a mold having at least one side wall defining an interior portion and an injector port
5 whereby an extrudable material may be injected through said injection port into said mold;
a member whereby said member is in sealable connection about said interior portion;
said member capable of moving along said interior portion of said mold whereby said
member may adjustably control a density of said extrudable material.
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10 ~~18~~ (Previously Added) An apparatus comprising:
a mold having at least one side wall defining an interior portion and an opening
whereby material may fed into said mold;
a member in sealable connection about said interior portion;
wherein member is capable of moving along said interior portion of said mold
15 whereby said member may adjustably control a density of said extrudable material.
- 3 ~~19~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein said controlling member
comprises a back pressure piston.
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20 ~~20~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein said member that adjustably
controls a density comprises a piston.
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25 ~~21~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein said member further
comprises at least one gear and/or at least one brake.
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25 ~~22~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 20, further comprising a mech valve to
shut off the flow of said material.
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30 ~~23~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a tail stop and/or
sensor to indicate when said valve should shut.

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~~24~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 18, further having a mold with at least one end, wherein said mold further comprises a rod on or about said at least one end.

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~~25~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein said end and rod are pushed outwardly as the mold fills and the rod is detected by the sensor when said mold is filled.

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~~26~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 18, further comprising a means to shut off the flow of said injected material when said mold is filled or substantially filled and a means to divert said material to another mold that is not filled.

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~~27~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 26, wherein said means comprises a diverter valve.

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~~28~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein said means further comprises a first diverter station and a second diverter station.

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~~51~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said member that adjustably controls a density of said extrudable material comprises a piston.

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~~52~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein said member that adjustably controls a density of said extrudable material further comprises at least one gear and at least one brake.

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~~53~~. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of Claim 12, further comprising:
a means to shut off the flow of said injected material when said mold is filled or substantially filled.

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~~54~~. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 53, wherein said means comprises a mechanical valve.

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~~55~~. (Previously Added) An apparatus for making a molded member comprising:

a Banbury mixer or other open chamber mixer for mixing materials;
at least one mold that has sides and ends that can be closed;
an extruder for filling said mold with said mixed material;
a member that adjustably controls a density of said material as the mold is filled;
5 a valve to shut off the flow of said mixed material when said mold is filled;
a tail stop and/or sensor to indicate when said valve should shut; and
a water bath for cooling said mold or molds.

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~~56~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 55, further comprising:
10 a plurality of molds.

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~~57~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 55, further comprising a means to shut off
the flow of said injected material when at least on mold is filled or substantially filled and a
means to divert said material to a mold that is not filled.

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~~58~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 55, wherein said means comprises a
diverter valve.

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~~59~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 58, wherein said means further comprises
20 a first diverter station and a second diverter station.

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~~60~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 55, wherein said mold further comprises a
rod which extends from one end of said mold and is pushed outwardly as said mold is filled.

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25 ~~61~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein said rod is detected by a
sensor when said mold is full.

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~~62~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 61, wherein said sensor causes the mold
to close.

30 ~~63~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 62, further having means to put the mold

into the water bath and means to take the mold out of the waterbath.

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~~64~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 60, having means to push said rod inwardly and push the member out of the mold after said member is formed.

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~~65~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 66, further comprising a cooling rack.

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~~66~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 65, further comprising a texturing member.

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~~67~~ (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 55, wherein said controlling member comprises at least one gear and at least one brake.

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